



# No. 9 News

Spring 2012

Louisville Metro Council



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## Greetings from the Ninth District Office

We hope you're enjoying this mild spring weather--though stormy at times. I wanted to share updates on some activities, projects and events happening around Louisville.

You'll read in an article about the re-districting process that happened last fall. The 9th District has moved further east and has welcomed several suburban cities into its boundaries. Registered voters that were added to our District in November received a welcome letter and information from our office. If you did not receive that information please contact my office at 574-1109 or email [kyle.ethridge@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:kyle.ethridge@louisvilleky.gov).

This year I decided to go paperless for the large newsletters my office creates twice a year. This will not only help save taxpayer dollars, but will also be a greener option. As you know my office has been hard at work on the Green Triangle Initiative. Last fall we welcomed Ms. Katie Holmes to our office as the new Special

Projects Coordinator working on all things GREEN. If you have ideas to share with Katie or have questions about any green projects please contact her from our website. I understand not everyone has access to the internet and email so I'll still be mailing out paper copies of the newsletter to anyone in the District who requests a copy. It will also be available on my website if you have access from your local public library.

In addition, you will find articles about the proposed Yates Amendment to our Landmarks Ordinance and an upcoming public meeting; a Reservoir Park access history and update; the Bowman Field Area Safety Program (i.e., tree obstruction survey); expanded residential recycling in the Urban Services District (USD); Green Triangle update; snap shot of expenditures; and the Brownsboro Road Diet.

And finally, as a result of the exponential rise of theft of

copper and metals, the KY State Legislature passed state-wide reforms to the metal recycling industry for the entire state. Thanks to the many efforts to address this--especially by 9th District Green Triangle Business Champion River Metals Recycling--the Metro Council has moved forward with enacting the change and will vote in April to adopt them for Jefferson County. This will put all counties on a level playing field of accountability and hopefully begin to reduce the metal thefts greatly in the coming months. As a co-sponsor of that legislation I am committed to continuing to improve cracking down on the illegal activity while promoting recycling as a sustainable living practice. Stay tuned.

Please contact my office if you need assistance with any neighborhood issues or to share good news. As always, I appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Tina

## Mayor Urges Compassion for Tornado Victims

Citing the "truly unbelievable" level of destruction and loss from March's multiple tornadoes, Mayor Greg Fischer said Louisville has a chance again to demonstrate how compassionate the community is by donating to help storm victims.

People can give to the American Red Cross at [www.louisville-redcross.org](http://www.louisville-redcross.org) or by texting the word

REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

You can also give to the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana at 4104 Charlestown Rd. or by going to [www.cfsouthernindiana.com](http://www.cfsouthernindiana.com). Their number is (812) 948-4662.

While the Red Cross' focus is on immediate needs, the Community

Foundation of Southern Indiana is establishing a fund for long-term help as people and cities rebuild.

Additional opportunities to donate are available through Kentucky Emergency Management at <http://lkvem.ky.gov/recovery/Pages/VolunteerCoordination.aspx>



## Proposed Landmark Ordinance

**History:** In 1973, the city of Louisville established a public preservation policy and created the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission. The Landmarks Commission helps safeguard historic structures within designated areas of the city from indiscriminate destruction and alteration. Combinations of public and private efforts have since succeeded in rehabilitating many once-blighted neighborhoods.

The following information presents some of the responsibilities of the Landmarks Commission, Architectural Review Committees, and staff.

- The Commission officially recognizes areas and individual buildings with significant architectural and historic resources by designating preservation districts and local landmarks.
- Architectural Review Committees and staff review all exterior alterations to structures, new construction, and demolition within local preservation districts and for individual landmarks, thereby preventing insensitive changes to existing structures and patterns of development.
- Staff members provide professional design guidance to owners of historic properties and information about tax incentives for rehabilitation.

Several Metro Council Members have proposed changes to the Landmark Ordinance. Some of the changes include:

1. Signatures for local landmark designations must contain at least 51% of property owners or residents within a 1-mile radius of the structure.
2. The local landmark designation must be approved by the Metro Council.

There were two public meetings scheduled for discussion on the proposed amendments.

The first was on Tuesday March 13th in Metro Council Chambers. This meeting is available to watch online at [www.louisvilleky.gov/metrocouncil](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/metrocouncil), click on the "watch Metro Council meeting" and select March 13th.

The second meeting will be Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at UAW Local 862 Union Hall, 3000 Fern Valley Road. You may sign up to speak at the hearing beginning at 5:30 p.m.

\* This meeting will not be aired live due to the fact it will be at a remote location.

## Reservoir Park Access History



In 1978 Ms. Carolyn Enos at 300 Claremont Avenue agreed to allow emergency access through her private driveway after the death of a resident who had a heart attack as EMS was delayed by a stationary train blocking its 3 entrances. Before that time there were no other options for getting into or out of Reservoir Park if a train was blocking all the crossings. Her private driveway was to be used for emergency situations only when the train was blocking the tracks. Because that privilege was being abused by folks who were using it as a cut through at all times of the day and night when trains

were not blocking the tracks Ms. Enos' attorney advised her to only allow emergency vehicles to access the driveway when there was a train blocking for a 911 emergency, which was all that ever should have been allowed. Louisville Fire Department installed a Knox box at the gate and emergency responders have the code so only they can access the gate. In addition, in the mid 1980s when Mockingbird Gardens (MG) was being developed, the Planning Commission and the developer recommended that there be a connection onto Fenley Avenue from a street within the MG devel-

opment for connectivity and other daily living needs that weren't 911 emergencies but that were important enough to warrant needing to get in or out in a timely manner. Unfortunately, the neighbors living in Reservoir Park at the time voted against the connection and therefore one was not built. In addition, restrictions were put on every MG lot that backs up to Reservoir Park streets that restrict access. Amending the record plat is the only way to change the situation that would then allow access from Fenley to a lot in MG.

## Reservoir Park Access Update

My office has been working for several months with a neighbor on Waterleaf Way, Mr. Paul Burke, who has agreed to allow folks stuck in or out of Reservoir Park to utilize his property when the train is blocking both crossings for more than 15 minutes. Right now he is in the process having his property surveyed and applying to amend the minor plat with Planning & Design. This will allow him to have vehicular access to Fenley Ave. He is then planning to install security equipment at the gate to ensure no one is abusing its use, once he builds the connection off his current driveway to Fenley Ave.

As you might imagine, this will likely cost between \$4,000-\$6,000. And because this doesn't meet criteria for a public emergency and is on private property - I cannot use public funds. So some of your neighbors have agreed to take up a modest collection from every home in Reservoir Park, likely around \$20-\$30 per home, in order to cover the costs. This is only an interim solution because at any time if the Reservoir Park residents begin to abuse the access, your neighbor, Mr. Burke, will have the right to stop allowing neighbors to use it.

Even though this will help, we continue to look for more permanent ways to offer non-emergency access in and out. So until Mr. Burke gets through the P&D process and if you have a 911 Emergency, you should call 911. If the train blocks both crossings for more than 15 minutes between now and then and you don't have a 911 emergency, you may call my office at 574-1109 and we'll contact Mr. Burke and ask that he open the gate only during the time the train is blocking the tracks.

Though this is only a temporary solution it's all we have for now. Currently Mr. Burke is

midway through the process with letters of notification for comment to go out this week. Once comment period is over and all questions answered from agencies reviewing the request, we will hopefully move forward shortly after that with official approval of the gate access during times when the tracks are blocked for more than 15 minutes. I think we're nearing conclusion of this arduous but necessary process. Stay tuned.

## Bowman Field Airport Area Safety Program

On Thursday, February 16, 2012, the Louisville Regional Airport Authority (LRAA) voted and approved the Bowman Field Airport Area Safety Program and will begin taking inventory of the trees surrounding Bowman Field this spring. This survey is necessary so LRAA can comply with the new, more stringent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety standards that are now in effect to protect aircraft and surrounding neighbors.

I have been keenly interested and

actively involved in the public dialogue about the proposed area assessment to study the trees and other obstructions near Bowman Field. In addition, I have visited Washington, DC, and met with the FAA to understand clearly the requirements, necessity and scope of the proposed survey.

While these multiple levels of engagement don't make me an authority on the risks factors involved for the safety of both aircrafts and residents, it has provided me with enough

information and perspective to be convinced that the results of such a survey will likely reveal only a minimal impact on the tree canopy in the affected areas.

I am unwavering in my commitment to keeping Bowman Field operational at its current level.

To view FAQ and a map that will show the affected areas please visit [www.flylouisville.com](http://www.flylouisville.com) or <http://www.flylouisville.com/Bowman-Field/Meetings-and-Events.aspx>.



**Bowman Field Airport**

## Expanded Recycling

The 9<sup>th</sup> District's Expanded Recycling program was started in 2011, and has increased recycling opportunities for residents and businesses. For a one-time fee of \$50 to \$55 per cart, residents may purchase a 95-gallon black cart with orange lid from Metro Solid Waste Management (SWMS). The program is helping keep waste that can be recycled out of the landfill. Plus, this option is cost-effective for businesses, which can pay a one-time fee of \$50 for a solid orange cart rather than paying to have their recycling hauled away or

worse yet, put it in the garbage that goes to the landfill. Contact Katie Holmes in our office at 574-1109 to receive a sign-up form for a large recycling cart.

In addition to these projects, the 9<sup>th</sup> District Office is always looking for ways to make decisions through a green lens. Our office is currently working with MSD on a rain barrel pilot project for residents on Payne Street to encourage the use of rain barrels and measure the amount of rain water that is kept out of the c

combined sewer system from their use. In late 2011 we worked with Metro Public Works to install a bike rack for 10 in the public parking lot at the corner of Frankfort Avenue and N. Keats. This was the first parking space in Louisville to be replaced with a bike rack, and we hope that it will encourage people to explore Frankfort Avenue by bike.

Email Special Projects Coordinator Katie Holmes at [katie.holmes@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:katie.holmes@louisvilleky.gov), or call our office at 574-1109 to learn more or get involved.



**"the 9<sup>th</sup> District Office is always looking for ways to make decisions through a green lens"**

## Green Triangle Update

The Green Triangle is the 9<sup>th</sup> District's sustainability initiative. We are working with individuals, businesses and government to create a 9<sup>th</sup> District of green spaces for people to connect with nature and each other; green options for transportation; and green thinking that promotes the conservation of resources and our small neighborhood feel. The initiative is growing through innovative partnerships to increase sustainability in the District. If you are interested in getting involved with the Green Triangle, consider joining one of the recently formed Goal Teams. These two teams

are focused on achieving the two initial goals of the Green Triangle. The *Network Goal Team* will create a supportive network to connect people and ideas to each other, empowering individuals, businesses, and organizations to be more environmentally sustainable in their thoughts and actions. The *Waste/Recycling Goal Team* will work to create a comprehensive recycling and repurposing system for the 9<sup>th</sup> District. Be on the lookout for new projects that the Goal Teams will start in order to create a more sustainable future for our community.

To find out more about the Green Triangle and how to be involved in greening our community, visit the website [www.mygreentriangle.com](http://www.mygreentriangle.com).

The website is now interactive. New features allow individuals, businesses, and organizations to share how they are bringing the Green Triangle vision to life. You can track your progress towards holistic sustainability and create a community map of green initiatives and features in the 9<sup>th</sup> District. Start tracking your green progress at [www.mygreentriangle.com](http://www.mygreentriangle.com).



## Snapshot of Neighborhood Development Funds, Capital Infrastructure Funds and Capital Budget July 2011 – February 2012 Expenditures

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b><u>Sustainability Projects</u></b>	
Clifton Canopy - Tree Survey Matching Funds	\$ 10,000.00
US Green Building Incentives	\$ 1,000.00
<b><u>Public Improvement Projects</u></b>	
Beals Branch for Neighborhood Signage	\$ 2,000.00
Brightside - Install Irrigation System at Cannons Lane Medians	\$ 2,287.50
Butchertown Historical Marker	\$ 1,150.00
Daneshall for Invasive Plant Removal and Beautification	\$ 2,000.00
Economic Development / Parking T's On Payne St. and Frankfort Avenue	\$ 416.90
Economic Development / Repaint Parking Lines In Public Parking Lots	\$ 900.00
Metro Parks - 2 Treadmills for Mary T Meagher Aquatic Center	\$ 6,550.00
Metro Parks - Breslin Park Matching Funds for Improvements	\$ 30,000.00
Metro Parks - Breslin Park Sidewalk on Payne Street	\$ 14,000.00
Metro Parks - Cherokee Park Matching Funds for Pavilion Repair	\$ 10,000.00
MPW - Bike Rack For Keats Parking Lot and Signage	\$ 867.00
MPW - Repave Asphalt in Alley B/W Willis & Shelbyville Road	\$ 2,500.00
MPW - Purchase of Japanese Tree For Frankfort Avenue	\$ 440.00
MPW - Survey for Easement at 2305 Sycamore for Sidewalk	\$ 2,262.50
MPW - Tree Trimming along Frankfort/Lexington Road area	\$ 2,600.00
<b><u>Non-Profit Projects</u></b>	
Academy of St Andrews	\$ 750.00
Arts Council of Louisville	\$ 250.00
Big Brothers, Big Sisters	\$ 250.00
Clifton Cultural Center for Taste of Frankfort Avenue	\$ 5,000.00
Coalition for the Homeless	\$ 750.00
Crescent Hill Community Council - Fourth of July Celebration	\$ 4,949.00
Crescent Hill Radio Music Funding	\$ 525.00
EDGE Outreach for NFWL Presentation	\$ 5,000.00
Family & Children's Place	\$ 500.00
Frankfort Avenue Business Association	\$ 15,000.00
Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana – Habitat House Project	\$ 2,500.00
Green Hill Therapy – services for special needs children	\$ 500.00
Jefferson Memorial Forest Fest	\$ 500.00
Kentucky Foundation for Women - Happy Birthday Park	\$ 2,000.00
Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft Parade	\$ 1,000.00
Louisville AIDS Walk	\$ 500.00
Louisville Metro Affordable Housing Trust Fund	\$ 1,255.00
LMPD - Adopt a School – Breckinridge/Franklin	\$ 1,000.00
LMPD - National Night Out	\$ 250.00
Louisville Zoo	\$ 3,000.00
Mayor's Office for Office for Globalization	\$ 300.00
Mellwood Art Fair	\$ 2,500.00
Metro Codes & Regulations – Mentoring Program	\$ 100.00
Metro Parks - Engaging Children Outdoors (ECHO) Program	\$ 1,500.00
Metro Parks - Back to School Block Party	\$ 804.00
Metro Parks / Million Mutt March	\$ 262.50
No Kill Louisville	\$ 1,200.00
Olmsted Conservancy - Plant for the Planet Trees	\$ 100.00
St. Joseph Children's Home – St. Joseph's Picnic	\$ 500.00
The Healing Place	\$ 500.00
United Crescent Hill Ministries (UCHM) Santa Sprint and Stroll	\$ 500.00
University of Louisville Mammography Screenings	\$ 1,000.00
VFW - Buechel War Memorial	\$ 250.00
Voices of Kentuckiana - Anti-Bullying Video	\$ 250.00
Volunteers of America	\$ 500.00
Worldfest Sponsorship	



## Brownsboro Road Reconfiguration Project Update

### Project Details:

The Brownsboro Road Reconfiguration Project affects Brownsboro Road between N. Ewing and Drescher Bridge Avenue. The project will take the northeast lane of Brownsboro and install an 8' wide curbed sidewalk and green space. That will leave 3 lanes on Brownsboro Road. The lane along the Kroger side will continue to be a "Through Lane" headed toward St. Matthews; the center lane will become a dedicated "Turn Lane" in both directions; and the final lane will continue to be a "Through Lane" headed downtown. Today there are 4 "Through Lanes" along this stretch, the two "Through Lanes" in the center (one in both directions) basically function as "Turn Lanes" because anyone who wants to turn into Kroger, CVS, Blimpie's or Thornton's, Rally's, the apartments on the hill, Mt. Holly and/or Pizza Hut causes vehicles behind them to stack up while they wait for oncoming traffic to clear so they can turn safely, creating two "Turn Lanes". As is the case today, all vehicles traveling on the outside of both these center lanes will continue to travel through the area. There should be fewer delays happening because vehicles darting in and out of these lanes will now be in a dedicated "Turning Lane." After much analysis of the volume of daily traffic and current traffic patterns by Metro Public Works (MPW), what is proposed actually

makes traffic more orderly, efficient and safer. Safer because it will actually move those turning vehicles into their own lane and will eliminate the vehicles that dart in and out of flowing traffic. Even if there are some delays with the project, they will only affect commuting time between 4-10 seconds, based on traffic surveys and analysis. I believe that's a small price to pay for the many benefits this project brings. This project creates a safer roadway for drivers, bicyclists and with a new sidewalk, pedestrians as well. For the first time ever, the visually impaired and thousands of neighborhood folks will have a safe way to go from either side of Brownsboro Rd. to the other to get home, get to work, catch the bus, get their groceries, get their medicines, shop locally or simply to get more exercise.

In addition, the project is affordable with the bulk of the \$400,000 funding for the project being Federal funds, though there are local matching funds as well.

Though folks may not have a lot of information about the project, this project has been discussed dozens of times over the past 6 years with public notices of the meetings in the local community newsletters and even in the C-J--as was the case for the recently held forum on January 25, 2012, where no one spoke in opposition and over 75 people spoke in favor of it. It is

unfortunate that even with all our efforts for this and any project we're involved in, that there are always folks who may have overlooked or missed knowing more about the project, though I used every avenue at my disposal to make this information available.



Even so, MPW announced Friday, March 30th, that they have opened a 30-day window for the public to comment on this project. Comments may be emailed to [BrownsboroRoadDiet@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:BrownsboroRoadDiet@louisvilleky.gov) or mailed to Brownsboro Road Diet Comments, c/o MPW, 444 S 5th St, Ste. 400, 40202. Once the comment period has elapsed and MPW has responded, they and Mayor Fischer will make a final determination. Though there are no certainties, I am confident in the integrity of this plan and all of its improvements and anticipate it will begin shortly thereafter. We no doubt will find out soon.

While my best description may not have changed your opinion about the project, I do hope you have enough information to appreciate or at least understand the value of this project. By all calculation the only real negative impact will be on the folks who are in a hurry and speeding through this neighborhood corridor.

Please check my website at [www.louisvilleky.gov/metrocouncil](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/metrocouncil) for additional information about traffic studies and links to similar projects.

***"This project creates a safer roadway for drivers, bicyclists and with a new sidewalk, pedestrians as well."***

## Metro Council Re-Districting

Every ten years, local governments must redraw district boundary lines for better representation based on the US Census data. The districts shall respect existing neighborhood, community, and city boundaries. In addition, the districts must meet the standards of the U.S. Constitution and the federal Voting Rights Act.

On November 9, 2011, an ordinance that reapportions and redistricts the 26 districts of the Louisville/ Jefferson County Metro Council took effect.

As you are probably aware, the 9<sup>th</sup> District shifted to the East along with most of the Metro Council Districts. I now represent the following neighborhoods and suburban cities: Bellewood, Brownsboro Village, Greenleaves, Butchertown, Cherokee Gardens, Cherokee Woods, Seneca/Rock Creek, Clifton, Clifton Heights, Crescent Hill, Irish Hill, Richlawn, Lexington Road Preservation Area and a small western portion of St. Matthews.

For those new to the 9<sup>th</sup> District, effective Spring 2011, I decided to

only distribute e-newsletters to my constituents that had access to email. I made this decision for several reasons, first I want to save paper and trees, and second it's a more cost effective way to use taxpayer funds. I send weekly eNews updates which include general information about the district, upcoming events and meeting opportunities. To sign up for the weekly eNews distribution please contact Kyle Ethridge at [kyle.ethridge@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:kyle.ethridge@louisvilleky.gov) with your name, address, phone number and email address.

I also have a blog with calendar events and recent news at [district9news.wordpress.com](http://district9news.wordpress.com).

I understand that not everyone in the District has access to email or the internet, so I will still be mailing copies of the newsletter to anyone that requests it through my office.

To sign up for the paper mailing of the newsletter, which is distributed twice a year, please contact my office at 574-1109.

## 2012 District 9 Calendar

**F.A.T. Friday**, Frankfort Avenue Trolley, 6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. along Frankfort, Mellwood and Story Avenues. The F.A.T. Friday Trolley Hop takes place on the Final Friday of each month. For more information please visit [www.fatfridayhop.com](http://www.fatfridayhop.com). Upcoming dates are Apr. 27, May 25, Jun. 29, July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 28, Oct. 26 and Nov. 30.

### April 2012

**Saturday, April 7:** Frankfort Avenue Easter Parade from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Frankfort Ave from Stilz to Haldeman. For more information visit [www.frankfortave.com](http://www.frankfortave.com).

**Saturday, April 14:** 9<sup>th</sup> District Community Cleanup from 8:30 a.m. - Noon. Volunteers should plan to meet at the Brownsboro/Story Park in Butchertown. FREE t-shirts, bags, gloves and tools will be provided to all volunteers on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register for the clean-up please contact the 9<sup>th</sup> District office at 574-1109.

**Saturday, April 14:** League of Women Voters (LWV) Volunteer Day. Please join me during the Mayor's Week of Service and "Give a Day" by volunteering at LWC from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. located at 115 S Ewing St. Questions please call 574-1109.

### May 2012

**Friday, May 4:** 9<sup>th</sup> District Furlough Day - the office will be closed.



**Saturday, May 12:** 9<sup>th</sup> District FREE shredding, e-recycle and shoe donation drive-through event at the lower parking lot of the Mellwood Arts Center, 1860 Mellwood Avenue, across from Mom's Music from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We have partnered with Shred-It, Eco-Cell and EDGE Outreach. For more information call 574-1109.

**Saturday, May 19:** St. Matthews Street Festival from 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. in the 3800 block of Frankfort Ave.

**Sunday, May 20:** Buy Local Art Fair from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Water Tower.

**Monday, May 28:** Memorial Day - Metro Government Holiday, all Metro offices closed. For the holiday collection schedule please call MetroCALL at 574-5000.

### June 2012

The 9<sup>th</sup> District USD will have junk collection set-out on a select weekend in June. You may begin setting out your junk Friday afternoon prior to your junk pick-up week and must have it all out by Monday at 6:00 a.m. For your junk set-out weekend dates please visit [www.louisvilleky.gov](http://www.louisvilleky.gov), "Map It" or call the office at 574-1109 or visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/solidwaste](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/solidwaste).

**Saturday, June 9:** City of St. Matthews Community Festival at Brown Park from Noon - 4:00 p.m.

**Friday, June 29:** Louisville Independent Business Alliance (LIBA) BrewFest event from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m., location to be determined.

[www.keepsloisvilleweird.com](http://www.keepsloisvilleweird.com)

**Saturday, June 30 - Sunday, July 1:** 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Old-Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration and Crescent Hill Art and Music Festival from 10:00 am - 8:00 pm at the Peterson-Dumesnil Lawn.

### July 2012

**Wednesday, July 4:** Independence Day - Metro Government Holiday, all Metro Offices closed. For the holiday collection schedule please call MetroCALL at 574-5000.

### August 2011

**Tuesday, August 7:** LMPD 5<sup>th</sup> Division National Night Out Celebration at the Peterson-Dumesnil House, 301 S Peterson Avenue.

### September 2012

**Monday, September 3:** Labor Day - Metro Government Holiday, all Metro offices closed. For the holiday collection schedule please call MetroCALL at 574-5000.

**Friday, September 7:** 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Back to School Block Party from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center, 201 Reservoir Avenue. Join us for FREE pizza, swimming and family fun!

**District 9 Website**  
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